

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are amended. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in Applicant's specification where the radial carcass and the bead portions are made of two separate materials that are not combined to form one continuous structure.

Claims 1, 2 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP 6-191238 (JP'238) in view of Ueyoko, U. S. Patent No. 5,885,387. As discussed during the April 1, 2004 personal interview and as suggested in the April 24, 2004 Advisory Action, if claim 1 was amended to explicitly recite that the radial carcass and the bead cords were not continuous, that such a feature would overcome the rejection over JP'238 and Ueyoko. Claim 1 has thus been amended to explicitly recite this feature. Accordingly, for the reasons discussed during the personal interview and in the March 22, 2004 Request for Reconsideration, neither JP'238 nor Ueyoko disclose or suggest all of the features recited in Applicant's claim 1 or the additional features recited in claims 2 and 9. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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